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BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND OF

The Inspector of Nuisances

FOR THE YEAR

1913.

PRESTON :

MATHER BROS., Printers, &c., 31, Lune Street.

1914.

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MEMBERS OF

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR,
(Councillor WALTER WOOD).

Alderman EDWARD JACKSON (Chairman).

Councillor J. PEARSON (Vice-Chairman).

Alderman S. KENT.

„ J. H. WOOD.

Councillor W. CLEGG-NEWTON.

„ J. E. FITTON.

„ W. HEYWOOD.

„ A. HILTON.

„ T. J. HILTON.

„ J. ROBERTS.

Medical Officer of Health...FREDK. J. WHEELDON, M.R.C.S.

Inspector of Nuisances...CHARLES HENRY NORTON, A.S.R.I.

Health Visitor.....NURSE HOLLINGSHEAD

Clerk.....Miss A. LEONARD.

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
1913.

Post Office Buildings,
Middletown,

March 20th, 1914.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Borough, for the year 1913.

The Birth Rate is only .1 per 1,000 inhabitants more, than the lowest birth-rate ever recorded in the Borough which was 20.9 in 1906.

The Death Rate is, on the other hand, a remarkable low one, being 1.8 per 1,000 less than the lowest rate previously recorded.

The Infantile Death Rate is for the first time on record below 100 per 1,000 births.

Apart from Scarlet Fever cases, the Borough has been comparatively free from infectious diseases during the year. Scarlet Fever was prevalent during the later half of the year, to the extent of about 20 cases a month.

Nurse Torrop resigned her post as Health Visitor during the year, and Nurse E. Hollingshead was appointed to fill the vacancy.

I wish to thank all the Members of the Staff for their loyal co-operation in the work of the department, and the Committee for their invariable courtesy and consideration.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

FREDK. J. WHEELDON.

Medical Officer of Health.

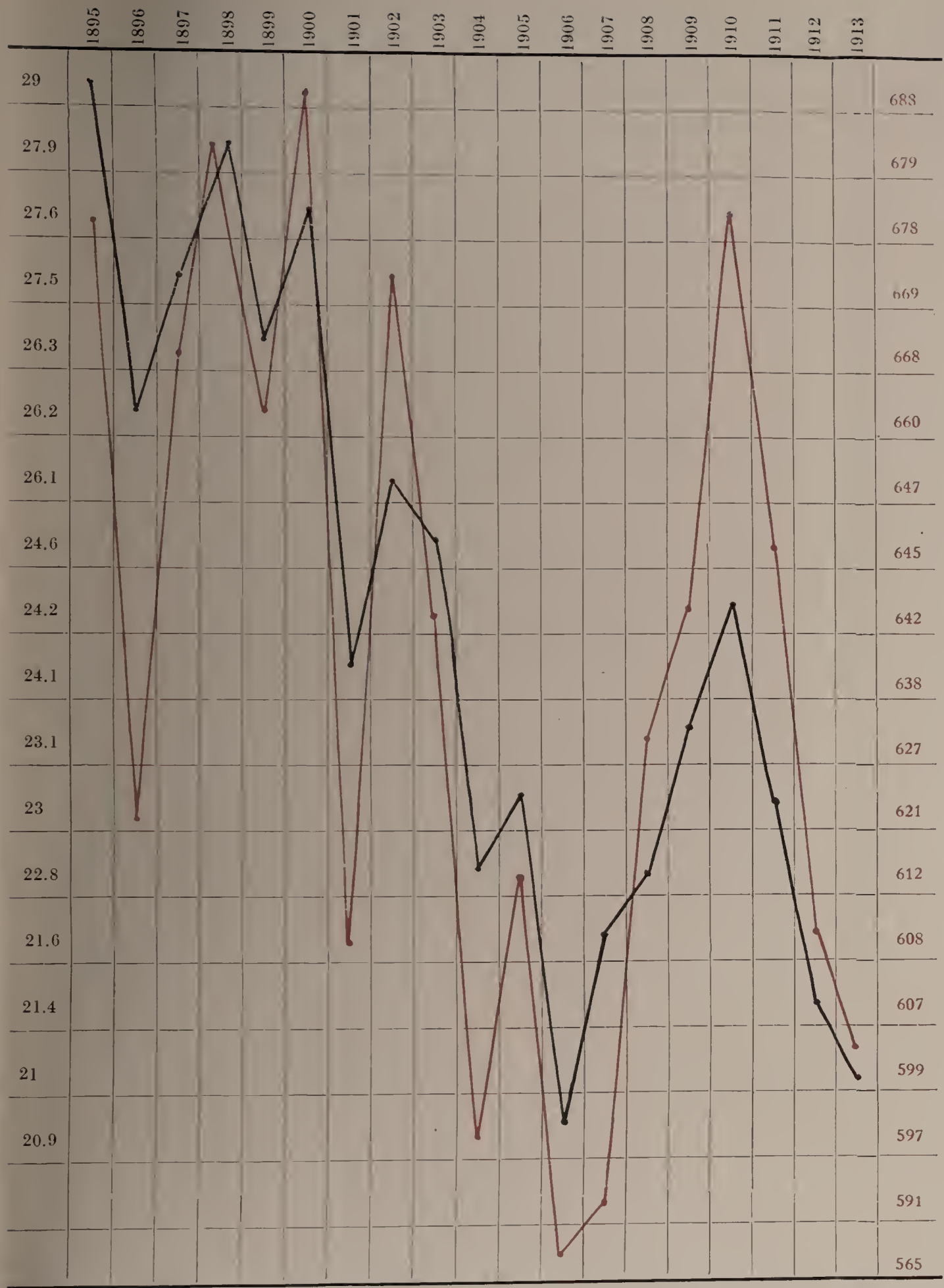


Diagram showing in black the birth rate, and in red the actual number of Births in each of the last nineteen years.

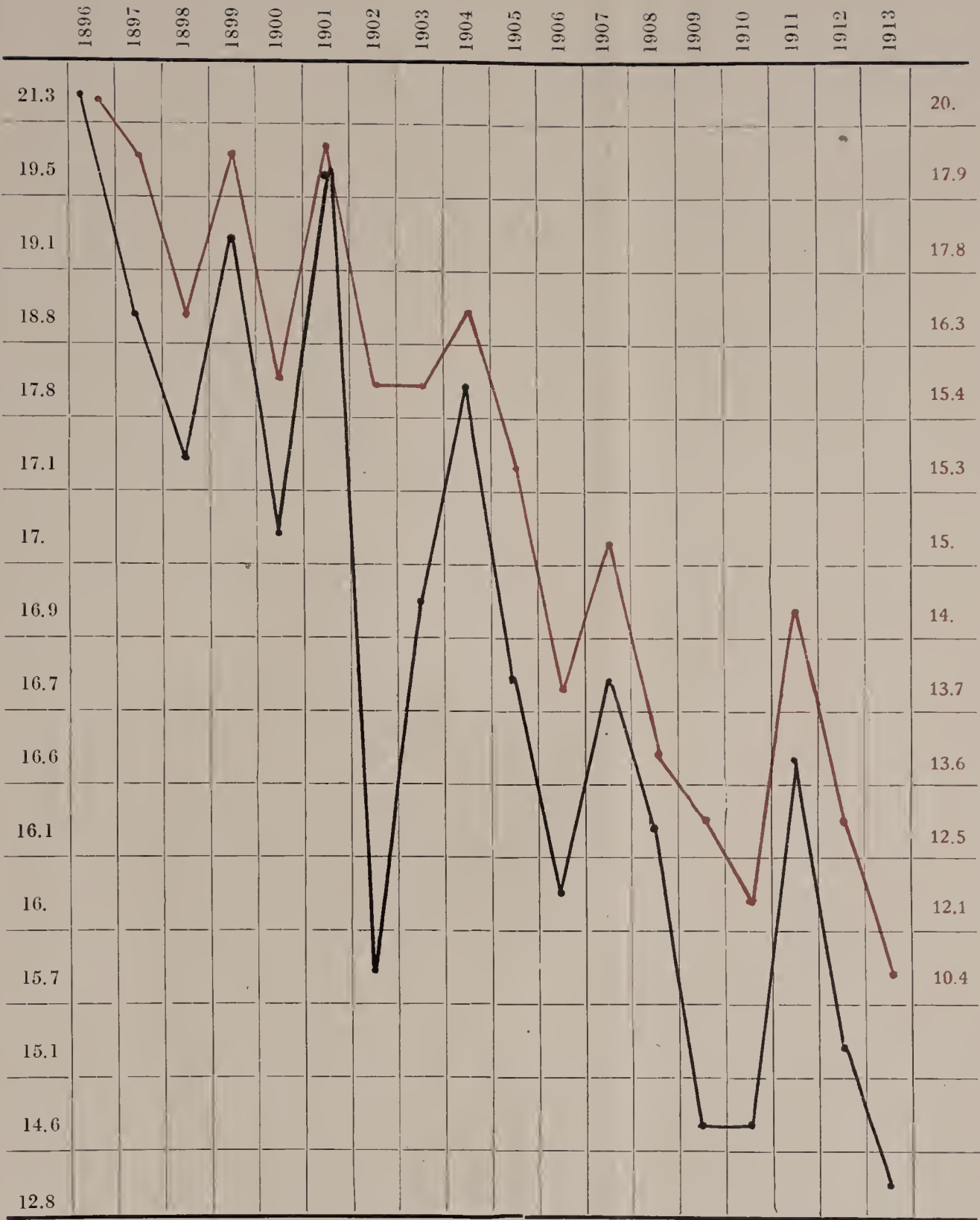


Diagram showing in black the Death-rate of all persons belonging to the district, and in red of persons whose deaths were registered in the Borough for the past eighteen years.

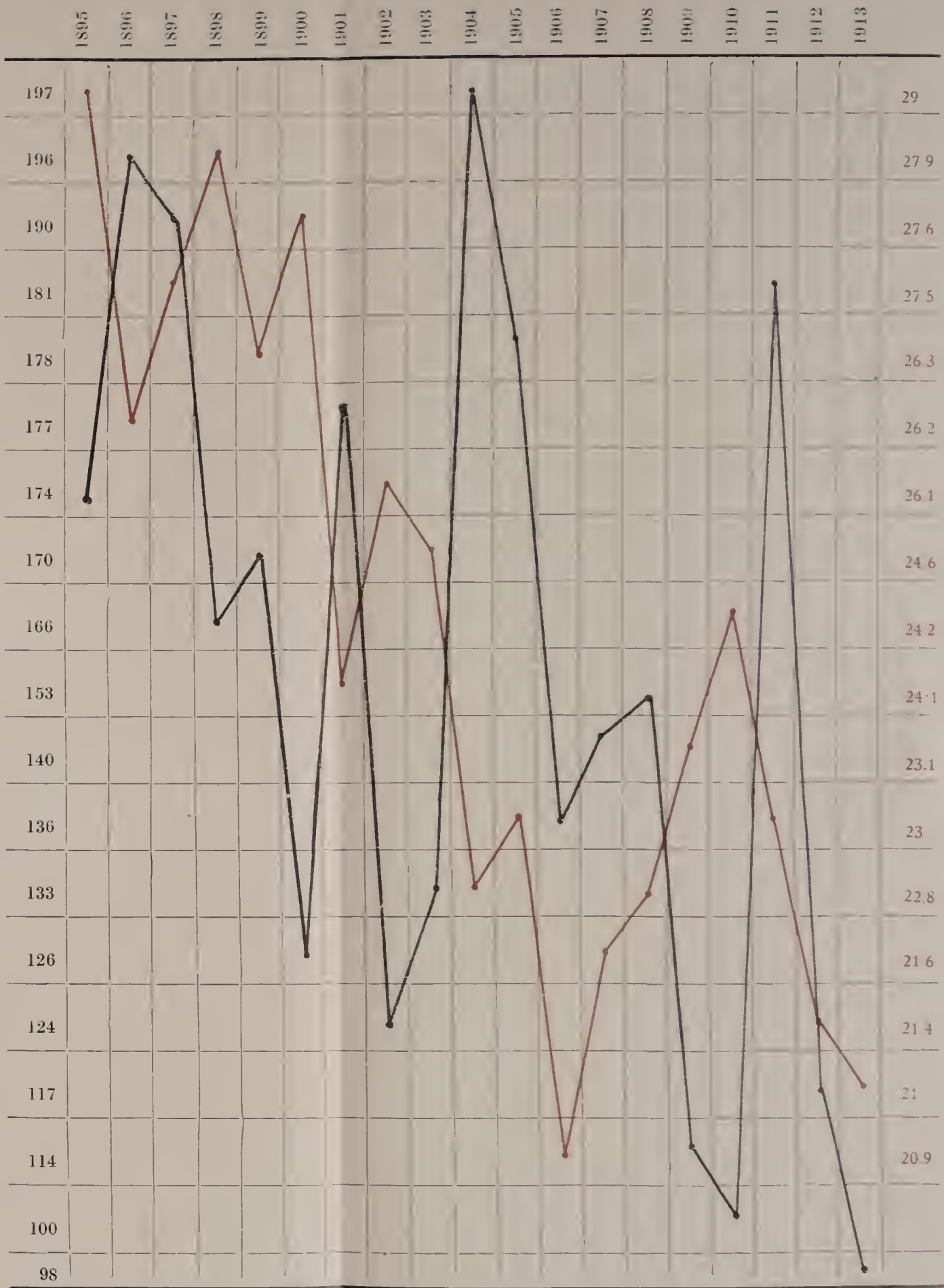


Diagram showing in red the Birth-rate, and in black the Infantile Death-rate per 1,000 children born, for the past nineteen years.



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BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON.

Area 4,741 Acres.

SITUATION AND SOIL.—Middletton is situated in the County of Lancashire, about six miles North of Manchester, five miles South of Rochdale, and four miles West of Oldham.

It is connected with each of these towns by a service of tram-cars, and is the terminus of a branch line from the main line to Yorkshire, from Manchester.

The greater part of the Borough lies in the watershed of the River Irk, whose tributaries, the Whit Brook and Wince Brook, join it in the centre of the town.

The Borough is hilly, and the height above ordnance datum varies from 230 feet at Rhodes, to 350 feet at Middleton Junction, and about 500 feet at Hebers and Slattocks. The soil is generally clay, in some parts of the Borough, gravel and sand. The climate is humid.

The chief industries are, Cotton Spinning, Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing and Weaving. The population is of the artisan class in the town, and there is a fairly extensive agricultural population in the surrounding districts.

POPULATION.—Census 1911, 27,983. Estimated 1913, 28,550.

The Borough is divided for Municipal and Poor Law purposes into six Wards :—

	Population		Acreage.	Number of Persons to an acre.
	Census.	Estimated 1913		
North Ward	4359	4447	1835	2.37
Central Ward	4377	4465	134	32.6
South Ward	4674	4768	677	6.9
East Ward.....	5683	5798	494	11.5
Parkfield Ward	5061	5163	404	12.2
West Ward.....	3829	3906	1197	3.2

The average density of the Population of the Borough is 6 per acre.

HOUSES.—Census 1911, 6,547 inhabited ; 211 empty, and 24 in course of construction. Average number of persons per house, 4.27.

Rateable Value—£127,893.

Consolidated District Rate 4/5 in the £, made up as follows :—

s.	d.	
2	3	in the £ for Improvement Purposes (including 11d. in the £ for Water Deficiency).
1	0	in the £ for Sewer Purposes.
0	6	in the £ for Lighting Purposes.
0	8	in the £ for Highway Purposes.
<hr/>		
4	5	Total.
<hr/>		

Poor Rate made up as follows :—

s.	d.	
1	0	Relief of the Poor.
0	11½	County Rate.
2	0	Borough Rate (including 1/2¼ for Education).
0	0½	Other Expenses of Overseers, Salaries, etc.
<hr/>		
4	0	Total.

POOR LAW RELIEF.—The amount expended on Poor Law Relief (outdoor) during the year was £483 3s. 10d.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1913.

Population — Census 1911, 27,983.

Estimated 1913, 28,550.

Births.....	{ Males.....273	Total .....599
	{ Females .....326	

Annual Rate per 1,000 inhabitants.....21.0

Deaths.....	{ Males.....190	Total .....369
	{ Females .....179	

Annual Rate per 1,000 inhabitants.....	12.8
Excess of Births over Deaths.....	230
Deaths of Infants under a year old.....	59
Infantile Death-rate per 1,000 Births	98
Deaths of Children aged 1-5 years	24
Total Deaths from seven principal Zymotic Diseases	8
Annual Rate per 1,000 inhabitants .....	.28
Total Deaths from Tubercular Diseases	29
Annual Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	1
Total Deaths from Respiratory Diseases.....	79
Annual Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	2.7
Total Cases of Infectious Disease Notified	132

BIRTHS.

The number of Births registered in the Borough during the year was 596. Of these 272 were boys, and 324 girls. To these must be added 3 births transferred to the District, but registered outside. The total was therefore 599, and the Birth-rate per 1,000 inhabitants 21. There is a decrease of 8 in number, and of .4 per 1,000 in rate from the figures for 1912.

The Birth-rate is the lowest recorded in the Borough, with the exception of that for the year 1906, which was .1 per 1,000 less.

The Birth-rate for England and Wales was 23.9 per 1,000 in 1913. This is .1 per 1,000 higher than the rate in 1912, which was the lowest ever recorded. The birth-rate of Middleton is 2.9 per 1,000 less than the rate over the whole county.

The Illegitimate Births registered amounted to 17, the same number as were registered in 1912. One of the three transferred births was illegitimate. The total was therefore 18, a decrease of 5 from the number in 1912. The percentage of all births was 3, and the rate per 1,000 inhabitants, .6.

There were 8 multiple births registered, in one case triplets, and twins in the other 7. There were two girls and one boy in the triplets, two boys in three instances of twins, two girls in one, and a boy and girl in three.

The Ward distribution of the Births was as follows :—

	Number of Births.	Rate per 1,000.
North Ward	86	19.3
Central Ward	71	15.9
South Ward	88	18.4
East Ward.....	137	23.6
Parkfield Ward	123	23.8
West Ward.....	91	23.3

The Notifications received under the Notification of Births Act, which was adopted in the Borough in 1908, amounted to 602. of these 34 were still born children.

Number Notified by Doctors	236
„ „ Midwives	347
„ „ Parents	19
„ not Notified	25

The number of Births not Notified again shows a considerable decrease from the number in the previous year, when there were 41. The same practice is followed in these cases of sending a letter to the parents of the child, calling attention to the neglect of their legal obligations.

DEATHS.

The Deaths registered in the Borough amounted to 298. This is a decrease of 56 from the number in 1912, of 96 from the number in 1911, and of 42 from that in 1910.

The rate per 1,000 of population was 10.4. In the previous 5 years the rate was 12.5, 14, 12.1, 12.5, and 13.6.

There were 74 Deaths of Middleton people which occurred in other districts, which deaths have been transferred to Middleton. In the previous 5 years this number was 74, 74, 69, 59 and 69.

Three Deaths were registered in Middleton of persons who were not residents, and these deaths have been transferred to the localities where they belonged.

The total Deaths of Middleton people during the year was therefore 298 plus 74 minus 3 = 369. The Death Rate per 1,000 inhabitants was 12.8, this rate is 1.8 per 1,000 inhabitants less than the lowest previously recorded. It is 2.3 per 1,000 less than the rate of the previous year, and .9 per 1,000 less than the rate for the whole of England and Wales.

Of the total deaths, 191 were males, and 183 females. The excess of births over deaths was 230, of which 83 were males and 147 females. This, the natural increase of population in the Borough during the year, compares as follows with that of the five previous years :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Year 1913.....	83	147	230
„ 1912.....	65	114	179
„ 1911.....	108	71	179
„ 1910.....	159	119	269
„ 1909.....	106	129	235
„ 1908.....	84	99	183

The number of Illegitimate Children who died during the year was 6. Three died before they were six months old, and all were under two years. The percentage of the total deaths was 1.6, and the proportion of illegitimate deaths to illegitimate births was 6 to 18, or 33 per cent.

Of the Multiple Births registered during the year, both children died in two instances, and one in each of two others. There were also in one instance twins still born.

The Ward distribution was as follows :—

	Registered in Borough	Registered outside Boro'	Total.	Rate per 1,000
North Ward	47	4	51	11.4
Central Ward	39	10	49	10.9
South Ward	48	18	66	13.8
East Ward.....	58	15	73	12.5
Parkfield Ward	65	21	86	16.6
West Ward.....	38	6	44	11.2
Total	295	74	369	12.8

For comparison the following table gives for the last three years :—

- (a) The Death Rate for each ward of persons whose deaths were registered in the Borough.
- (b) The numbers of persons whose deaths occurred outside the Borough, apportioned to the respective Wards in which they resided before removal.
- (c) The Death Rate for each Ward of all persons who died during each year, viz., (a) and (b) together.

	(a)			(b)		
	1913	1912	1911	1913	1912	1911
North Ward ..	10.5	9.8	16.2	4	11	9
Central Ward .	8.9	12.4	12.8	10	10	10
South Ward ...	10	16.3	12.4	18	11	13
East Ward.....	10	10.8	11.9	15	10	17
Parkfield W....	12.5	14.4	15.2	21	25	18
West Ward.....	9.7	10.8	16.2	6	7	7
Whole Boro'...	10.4	12.5	14	74	74	74

	(c)		
	1913	1912	1911
North Ward	11.4	12.3	18.4
Central Ward	10.9	14.9	15.2
South Ward	13.8	18.7	15.2
East Ward.....	12.5	12.5	14.9
Parkfield Ward	16.6	19.3	16.8
West Ward.....	11.2	12.6	18
Whole Borough	12.8	15.1	16.6

Parkfield Ward has the highest average Death Rate.

The 74 persons whose deaths were registered outside the Borough, died in the following places :—

Oldham Workhouse Infirmary	29
Oldham Children's Hospital	1
Oldham Union Asylum	11
County Asylum, Warrington.....	1
County Asylum, Whittingham.....	2
Rochdale Workhouse.....	1
Manchester Royal Infirmary	11
Manchester Northern Hospital	1
Manchester St. Marys' Hospital	4
Oldham Royal Infirmary	3
Marland Hospital (Fever)	1
Halifax Royal Infirmary.....	1
Manchester Christie Hospital	1
Chadderton (drowning)	3
Manchester, Harrogate, Blackpool, and Scar- borough.....	4
Total	74

DEATHS ARISING FROM THE SEVEN PRINCIPAL ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The Deaths from this class of disease amounted to eight, three were attributed to Measles, two to Scarlet Fever, one to Enteric, and two to Epidemic Diarrhœa. The figures for the past six years are as follows :—

	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908
Number of Deaths	8	17	71	39	17	43
Rate per 1,000 .....	.28	.6	2.5	1.4	.6	1.85
Percentage of all Deaths .	2.1	4	15.2	9.5	4.2	9.7

The following table gives the numbers for each disease for the past seven years, and the Ward distribution of the Deaths which occurred in 1913 :—

DISEASE.	No. of Deaths							Ward Distribu- tion 1913.				
	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	North	Central	South	East	Parkfield	West
Small Pox.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	5	2	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	1	...	4	5	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever.....	1	6	2	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Measles.....	17	4	16	17	15	3	...	1	...	2	...	...
Whooping Cough.....	4	...	6	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa.....	15	5	8	32	1	2	...	...	1	...	1	...
Total	43	17	39	71	17	8	3	1	1	2	1	...

There were no deaths during the year from either Small Pox, Whooping Cough, or Diphtheria. There were only two deaths which could be attributed to Zymotic Diarrhœa, the five other deaths from Diarrhœa being certified as Dyspeptic.

DEATHS ARISING FROM PHTHISIS AND OTHER TUBERCULAR DISEASES.

From this class of disease there were 29 deaths, the rate per 1,000 of population was 1, and the percentage of all deaths 7.8. The decrease from last year is 20, the rate per 1000 is .7 less and the percentage 3.7 less. Of the 29 deaths, seven occurred outside the Borough, four in the Workhouse Infirmary, one in the Northern Hospital Manchester, one in the Halifax Infirmary, and one at Harrogate.

The following table gives the figures for the past ten years :—

All Tubercular Dis-												
cases—	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13		
Number of Deaths .	41	56	51	51	53	46	33	43	49	29		
Rate per 1,000	1.5	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.0		
Phthisis Only—												
Number of Deaths.	27	40	42	43	42	28	25	31	37	21		
Rate per 1,000	1.02	1.5	1.57	1.52	1.57	1	.89	1.1	1.3	.73		

The age incidence was :—

	Phthisis	Other Tubercular Disease.	Total.
Under a year old .....	...	...	...
1 to 2 years .....	...	...	...
2 to 5 years .....	...	1	1
5 to 15 years	2	3	5
15 to 25 years	4	1	5
25 to 45 years	8	3	11
45 to 65 years	7	...	7
Over 65 years.....	...	...	...
Total	21	8	29

The Deaths from Tuberculosis other than Phthisis were certified as follows :—

Tubercular Meningitis	1
Tubercular Peritonitis	1
Tubercular Enteritis	1
Adominal Abscess	1
Tubercular Spine.....	1
Tubercular Hip Joint	2
General Tuberculosis	1
Total	8

The Ward distribution of the persons who died in Middleton was :—

	Phthisis	Other Tubercular Disease.	Total.
North Ward	4	...	4
Central Ward	1	...	1
South Ward .....	...	2	2
East Ward.....	6	1	7
Parkfield Ward	6	1	7
East Ward.....	1	...	1
Total	18	4	22

The Deaths which occurred outside the Borough belonged to the following Wards :—

Phthisis : North Ward, 1 ; Parkfield, 2 ; Total, 3.

Other Tubercular Disease : Parkfield Ward, 4 ; Total, 4.

DEATHS ARISING FROM CANCER AND OTHER MALIGNANT DISEASES.

During the year there were 19 deaths attributed to this class of disease. The rate per 1,000 was .66, and the percentage of all deaths 5.1. Five of these deaths occurred outside the Borough, three in the Workhouse Infirmary, one in the Oldham Infirmary, and one at the Christie Hospital in Manchester.

The sex, age and region affected were :—

	Males.	Females.	Age at Death.
Breast .....	...	3	37, 73, 77.
Bowel	2	2	48, 53, 65, 68.
Stomach.....	1	2	66, 70, 74.
Testicle	2	...	45, 47.
Uterus .....	...	1	62.
Liver	1	6	67.
Œsophagus .....	...	1	60.
Tongue .....	...	1	55.
Thyroid.....	...	1	70.
Lung.....	...	1	39.
Neck	1	...	71.
Total	7	12	

The deaths due to this cause during the past eight years were as follows :—

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.	Per cent. of all Deaths.
1906.....	27	1	6.2
1907.....	30	1.1	6.6
1908.....	28	1	7
1909.....	27	.98	6.6
1910.....	22	.78	5.4
1911.....	16	.57	3.4
1912.....	21	.74	5
1913.....	19	.66	5.1

DEATHS ARISING FROM DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS.

From this group of diseases there were 79 deaths, the rate per 1,000 inhabitants was 2.7, and the percentage of all deaths 21.4.

The figures for the past nine years were :—

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.	Per cent. of all Deaths.
1905.....	105	3.9	23.6
1906.....	74	2.7	17.1
1907.....	106	3.9	23.2
1908.....	85	3.1	19.1
1909.....	88	3.2	21.6
1910.....	74	2.6	18
1911.....	71	2.5	15
1912.....	113	3.9	26.4
1913.....	79	2.7	21.4

Thirty-eight deaths were due to Bronchitis, eighteen to Pneumonia, twenty-two to Broncho Pneumonia, and one to other diseases of the Respiratory Organs.

The age incidence was :—

	Bronchitis	Pneumonia.	Broncho Pneumonia.	Total.
Under a year old	3	3	8	14
1 to 2 years	4	1	4	9
2 to 5 years	1	...	2	3
5 to 15 years .....	...	...	2	2
15 to 25 years .....	...	3	...	3
25 to 45 years .....	...	5	1	6
45 to 65 years	11	4	1	16
Over 65 years.....	19	2	4	25
Total	38	18	22	78

One case of Bronchiectasis, aged 56.

The Ward distribution was as follows :—

North Ward	11
Central Ward	13
South Ward	12
East Ward.....	19
Parkfield Ward	14
West Ward.....	10
	—
Total	79
	—

INFLUENZA was responsible for eight deaths during the year. In all these cases this was certified as the primary cause of death ; in one case only was the disease uncomplicated. In the other seven cases the secondary cause of death was given as follows :—

Pneumonia	3	Heart Disease	1
Bronchitis.....	1	Chronic Nephritis.....	1
Congestion of Liver.....	1		

DIABETES MELLITUS.—There were six deaths from this cause, four of which occurred outside the Borough.

CEREBRAL HÆMORRHAGE.—Twenty-four deaths were certified as due to this cause. Of other brain and nervous affections there were seven cases of softening of the brain, two cases of Locomotor Ataxia, and one each of General Paralysis of the Insane, Abscess of the brain, Bulbar Paralysis, Ataxic Paraplegia and Hydrocephalus. There were six cases of Meningitis, one of which was Tubercular, and six cases of Convulsions.

NEPHRITIS or BRIGHTS DISEASE caused twenty-eight deaths.

LONGEVITY.

Of the total deaths 101 persons were 65 years old, or over.

This is 27.3 per cent., There were 51 who were between 70 and 80 years old, 16 between 80 and 90 years, and three over 90.

Thirty-four deaths attributed to Old Age.

INQUESTS AND UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

The uncertified deaths are those in which no certificate was given by a Registered Medical Practitioner, nor an inquest held by the Coroner, as to the cause of death. In all cases the Coroner made an official inquiry.

There were 27 Inquests, and 5 enquiries. Ten inquests on Middleton residents were held outside the Borough.

The cause of death in all cases were stated to be as follows :—

Natural Causes	14
Accident	12
Found Drowned	1
Suicide	4
Alcoholism.....	1

The accidental deaths were due to :—

Fall Downstairs	2
Drowning.....	3
Burns and Scalds	2
Strangling (roller towel)	1
Trap Accident.....	1
Motor Car (run over)	1
Railway (employee)	1
Machinery.....	1

The suicides were one each by Hanging, Drowning, Gas Poisoning, and Oxalic Acid poisoning. The case of Drowning was a resident in Oldham, and this death was transferred.

The ages were :—

	Inquest.	Enquiry.
Under a year old	1	2
Aged 1 to 5 years	2	1
Aged 5 to 15 years	3	...
Aged 15 to 25 years	1	...
Aged 25 to 45 years	6	...
Aged 45 to 65 years	9	2
Over 65 years.....	5	...
	—	—
Total	27	5
	—	—

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The Infantile Mortality is this year at the rate of 98 per 1,000 births. This is the first occasion for twenty years that the rate has been below 100. The actual number of deaths was 59, which is 9 less than in 1910, the lowest number previously recorded. There were 12 less than in 1912, and 39 less than the average for the previous eighteen years.

The percentage of all deaths was 16.

The following table gives for comparison the figures for the past 19 years ; the annual rate per 1,000 births ; and the percentage of all deaths :—

Year.	No. of Births.	No. of Deaths of Infants.	Annual Death Rate.	Percentage of all Deaths
1895	669	117	174	25.8
1896	621	123	196	24.3
1897	660	126	190	27.9
1898	679	113	166	27.1
1899	647	110	170	23.3
1900	688	87	126	20.5
1901	608	107	177	21.7
1902	668	83	124	20.9
1903	638	90	133	20.5
1904	597	119	197	25.4
1905	612	109	178	24.5
1906	565	77	136	17.8
1907	591	83	140	18.2
1908	627	96	153	21.6
1909	642	73	114	18
1910	678	68	100	16.5
1911	645	117	181	25.1
1912	607	71	117	16.6
<hr/>				
Average for 18 years.....	636	98	154	21.9
<hr/>				
1913	599	59	98	16

The number of deaths of children under a year old, the Infant Mortality rate, the number of Births, and the Birth Rate per 1,000 inhabitants in each Ward was :—

	Births.	Birth Rate.	Deaths under 1 year.	Infantile Death Rate.
North Ward	86	19.3	7	81
Central Ward	71	15.9	4	56
South Ward	88	18.4	9	102
East Ward.....	137	23.6	16	117
Parkfield Ward	123	23.8	16	130
West Ward.....	91	23.3	7	77

Parkfield Ward has the highest Infantile Death Rate.

The figures for the last eight years of the more common causes of death were as follows :—

	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Infectious Diseases....	6	11	4	2	7	13	3	1
Diarrhoeal „	19	17	23	8	11	39	11	10
Wasting „	14	8	15	19	15	9	10	7
Respiratory „	9	15	16	13	13	15	13	14
Premature Birth.....	8	13	25	18	11	14	15	15
Convulsions	12	9	4	5	4	9	7	4

The only death from Infectious Disease during the year 1913 was from the rather unusual cause, Chickenpox. The cases of Diarrhoeal Disease were, in two instances attributed to Epidemic Diarrhoea ; in three to Dyspeptic Diarrhoea ; and in one to Green Diarrhoea ; there were also four cases attributed to Enteritis and Gastro-Enteritis.

Twenty-six children died before they were a month old, and of these 11 were Prematurely Born, and 5 died from Diarrhoeal and Wasting Diseases respectively.

Three deaths were investigated by the Coroner, an Inquest being held in one case, They were all deaths from Natural Causes.

There were 24 deaths of children aged 1 to 5 years, in comparison with 28 in 1912, and 48, 42, 38, 25, 54, 48, and 54 in each of the previous seven years. The chief causes of death in these children were—

	AGES.				
	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	Total.
Infectious Diseases.....	3	...	...	...	3
Diarrhoeal Diseases	2	1	...	...	3
Respiratory Diseases	9	3	...	...	12
Convulsions	1	...	1	...	2
Tubercular Meningitis ....	...	...	...	1	1
Epilepsy.....	...	...	...	1	1
Nephritis	1	...	...	...	1
Accident	1	...	...	...	1
Total	17	4	1	2	24

Nurse Hollingshead reports as follows :—

“ From June to December, in connection with the Notification of Births Act, I have made 397 first visits and 182 revisits. The total number of visits paid during the whole year by Nurse Torrop and myself was 534 first visits, and 358 revisits, making a total of 892.

“ There were 602 Births Notified in the year, and of these 58 have died. Thirteen of this number were prematurely born. Seventeen were Illegitimate, and there were 9 Multiple Births.

“ Of still born children there were 34 notified.

“ On first visits 442 infants were breast fed, and 91 hand fed. Many of the first group were found on revisiting to be weaned from the breast either wholly or partially, in some cases from necessity, and in others in order to enable the mothers to return to the mill. These are infants who require visiting from time to time. Many do very well, others need frequent attention and many directions and hints to the parents and caretakers. in order to obtain anything approaching good health and proper care.

“ The use of the feeding bottle with long indianrubber tube will never be completely discontinued, until the chemists are prevented from selling them.

“ The card of instructions is left in every case and I find that the advice given is generally acted upon, as regards regular feeding, cleanliness of the feeding bottle and teats, proper measuring of feeds and suitability of the clothing.

“ In June to September I also left at each house visited the Diarrhœa leaflets, in every case drawing the attention of the parents to the importance of this disease to young children.

“ The Middleton Poor Children s'Aid Society has increased and replenished their stock of baby clothes, and articles for the use of the mothers, these are much appreciated by the poorest people, and have greatly benefited many needy cases. The outfits have been lent to 15 families in 1913.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND NOTIFICATIONS.

The number of cases notified during the year excluding Tuberculosis, was 132. This is an increase of 77 over the number in 1912.

The following table gives the number of cases notified in the past eighteen years. :—

Year	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13
Small Pox.....	31	3	13	13	...	...	1	...	6	...	...
Scarlet Fever	52	53	73	81	43	23	20	100	48	36	107
Diphtheria	17	6	14	14	54	33	18	11	6	3	8
Enteric Fever....	2	5	4	5	7	9	18	6	3	5	5
Erysipelas.....	24	22	22	15	8	19	26	20	14	9	9
Puerperal Fever.	1	2	2	5	5	1	1	...	2	2	3
Total	127	573	128	133	117	85	84	137	79	55	132

The Notifications received each month from the separate Wards, and the cases sent to Hospital (astericks) are shown in this table :—

Table showing the Notifications received each month from each Ward. * The asterisks indicate cases sent to Hospital.

Disease	Scarlet Fever.						Diphtheria.						Enteric Fever.						Erysipelas.						Puerperal Fever					
Ward.	N.	C.	S.	E.	P.	W.	N.	C.	S.	E.	P.	W.	N.	C.	S.	E.	P.	W.	N.	C.	S.	E.	P.	W.	N.	C.	S.	E.	P.	W.
January ...	1*	...	...	...	...	3**	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
February...	2**	...	1*	...	2**	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3**	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
March .....	...	...	...	...	1*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
April .....	...	...	2	...	1*	...	...	...	1*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
May	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
June .....	...	1*	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
July.....	7*	3**	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
August ...	2**	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
September	6**	...	1	2*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
October ...	5***	1	2	7**	1*	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
November ***	19***	1	...	2	1*	2	...	...	1*	1*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
December	8**	...	3*	10**	2**	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	51	6	10	23	8	9	...	...	1	3	3	...	1	1	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...
Sent to Hospital	30	3	2	5	7	2	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

107—49*8—4*5—1*93

107—49*

8—4*

5—1*

9

3

SMALL-POX.

In April a very suspicious case occurred in South Ward and was seen by me in consultation with the Doctor in attendance. We considered it advisable to remove the case to hospital for observation, where, however after several days the patient was declared not to be suffering from Small-Pox, and consequently the notification was withdrawn. All precautions were taken as regards disinfection and isolation of the other members of the household.

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year 107 cases were notified, an increase of 71 over the number for 1912, and the highest number notified in any one year since the severe epidemic of 1904.

The monthly incidence was as follows :—

January.....	4	July.....	13
February.....	1	August	3
March	5	September	9
April	1	October	17
May	4	November.....	25
June.....	2	December	23

The Ward distribution was :—

North Ward	51	East Ward	23
Central Ward	6	Parkfield Ward	8
South Ward	10	West Ward.....	9

The Age incidence was :—

Under a year old.....	2
Aged 1-5 years.....	27
Aged 5-15 years.....	71
Aged 15-25 years.....	6
Over 25 years.....	1

Forty-nine cases were treated in Hospital at Marland, one of which died, the second fatal case was treated at home. In twelve cases, more than one person was affected in the same house ; in 3 there were 4 cases, in three there were 3 cases, and in six there were 2 cases. Thus, there have been 86 houses affected.

The Sanitary arrangements in these houses were :—

Water Closets.....	29
Waste Water Closets.....	50
Sanitary Cans.....	6
Privy	1

The milk supply to these houses was derived from thirty-three different farms, the greatest number supplied from any one farm was 10, and in two cases condensed milk only was used.

The Schools attended by the various patients were as follows :—

St. Leonards.....	32	Parkfield.....	3
Durnford Street	8	Rhodes Infants	2
Elm Street	12	Birch	3
St. Peters	4	Mills Hill Chadderton	3
St. Michaels	4	Wesleyan Chadderton.....	1
Thornham.....	6	Private School	1
		Secondary School	1

The disease was in the majority of cases of the very mild type which has characterised this fever during the past few years. Accurate early diagnosis is very difficult in many cases, and there can be little doubt that many are missed, and come in contact with susceptible children in School, in the street and in their homes, without suspicion. Perhaps the most dangerous aggregation of children in the present day occurs in the numerous Kinematograph shows, where the great majority of school children attend at least once a week, and where the indifferent ventilation, inaccessibility of sunlight and crowded, over-heated audiences, all tend to the spread of the infection.

There is also the fact that there has been no serious epidemic in this Borough since 1904, when there were 535 cases notified ; consequently there are a large number of children, who, not having had the disease, are susceptible.

Necessarily an outbreak of this character interferes seriously with the school attendance, by the number of children who are excluded owing to the presence of infection in their homes, and also by the unnecessary though excusable fear on the part of parents, lest their children should acquire the disease from their school fellows.

DIPHTHERIA.

Eight cases were notified during the year, five more than in 1912.

They occurred in May, 1 ; June, 1 ; July, 1 ; October, 2 ; November, 2 ; and December, 1 case.

The ages of the patients were :—

2 years, 2 cases ; 3, 4, and 5 years, 1 case each ; 6 years, 2 cases ; 21 years, 1 case.

There was 1 case in Central Ward, 3 in South Ward, 3 in East Ward, and 1 in West Ward.

In one instance two cases occurred in the same house. The sanitary arrangements were in five cases Waste Water, and in each of the two others Sanitary Can and Water Closet respectively.

The milk supply was derived from six different farmers.

The supply of Anti-Diphtheritic Serum is provided free of charge as in past years.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Five cases were notified in the year, the same number as in the previous year. Three houses only were affected, as three cases occurred in one house. The Wards from which the cases came were South, North, and East.

The ages of the patients were 2, 22, 25, 30, and 62 years.

The Sanitary Appliances consisted of Waste Water Closets in two cases and Sanitary Can in one.

The milk supply was from a different source in each case.

The Water Supply to the cottage in which three cases occurred was strongly suspected, as it came from a spring through a farm yard to an open trough. A sample was sent to the Pathological Laboratory in Manchester for examination, but with a negative result.

ERYSIPELAS.

Nine cases were notified, the same number as in the previous year.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Three cases were notified.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Two
~~Two~~ cases of this disease were notified. In 1912 there was one case.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Since the Notification of Tuberculosis became compulsory in 1909, several changes have been made in the Orders of the Local Government Board, in each instance increasing the number of notifications, until, at the beginning of this year, 1913, the last order made every case of Tuberculosis, whether of the lungs or any other part of the body compulsorily notifiable.

In 1909 and 1910 only Poor Law Cases were notified.

In 1911, Hospitals and Sanatoria notified cases under their care.

In 1912 Private Cases under the care of Medical Attendants were made notifiable.

In February 1913 Surgical and all other Cases of Tuberculosis were added.

The Cases notified to me in this Borough since the year 1909, up to the end of 1912 and their condition at the end of 1912 was as follows :—

	Notified	Dead	In Middleton	Left Town
Poor Law Cases	35	23	7	1
Hospital Cases	32	6	19	7
Private Cases	48	24	23	1

One case was notified by Poor Law and Hospital.

Three cases were notified by Poor Law and Private.

Nine cases were notified by Hospital and Private.

The actual number of individuals notified in the four years was therefore 102. Of these cases 43 were dead at the end of 1912, and 11 died in 1913, 8 have left the town, 2 are in the Workhouse, and 2 were never traced to the address given in the Notification.

There are at the end of 1913, 37 of these patients living in Middleton.

During the year 1913 the number of Notifications received was as follows :—

	Tuberculosis of Lungs	Other Tubercular Diseases.
Private Notification	52	10
Hospital Notifications.....	13 (10 cases)	15 (13 cases)
Poor Law Notifications ...	9	4
Total	<u>74</u>	<u>29</u>

Of the 74 Notifications of Tuberculosis of the Lungs, 7 cases were notified privately and by Hospital, one Poor Law case had three notifications and another two, and three Hospital cases had two notifications each. Of the 29 Notifications of other Tubercular Diseases, two were notified by Hospital as well as privately, and one had three Notifications from Hospital.

The actual number of patients notified was therefore 61 with lung disease and 25 with Tuberculosis of other parts of the body.

Eleven cases notified in 1913, had been notified also in previous years, therefore the number of new cases notified in the year was
 $50 \times 25 = 75$.

The Ward distribution of the cases in Middleton during the year was as follows :—

	North	Central	South	East	Parkfold	West	Total
Cases notified before 1913	4	5	4	5	5	3	26
Cases notified in 1913 also.....	1	2	1	4	2	1	11
New cases in 1913.....	9	8	11	29	12	6	75
Total	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>112</u>

	North	Central	South	East	Parkfold	West	Total
Died in 1913.....	4	1	2	2	7	1	17
Left District.....	1	2	1	2	—	—	6
In Workhouse.....	—	—	—	1	4	—	5
Cured.....	3	2	1	6	—	1	13
Total	8	5	4	11	11	2	41
Leaving in Middleton, end of 1913	6	9	12	27	8	8	71

The age incidence was as follows :—

	Tuberculosis of Lungs	Deaths	Left Town	In Workhouse	Cured	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Dead	In Workhouse	Cured
Under a year old.....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	2
5-15 years	7	2	—	—	—	9	—	—	7
15 to 25 years	18	1	3	—	1	7	1	—	2
25 to 35 years	24	—	2	—	1	2	1	1	—
35 to 45 years	20	4	1	1	—	2	1	1	—
45 to 65 years	17	6	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
Over 65 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	87	13	6	3	2	25	4	2	11

The Sex of the Patients notified in 1913 was :—

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis of Lungs.....	33	28	61
Other forms of Tuberculosis	12	13	25

and of the Patients notified in previous years, excluding the eleven Patients notified in 1913 also :—

Males 11 Females 15

The following table gives the various forms of Tuberculosis from which the Patients were suffering in the cases notified in 1913, other than pulmonary cases :—

Disease	Number	Died	In Union	Cured	Remain in Middleton
Glands Cervical	10	—	—	9	1
Glands Abdominal	1	—	—	—	1
Hip	3	1	1	—	1
Spine	2	1	1	—	—
Meningitis	2	1	—	—	1
Peritonitis.....	2	—	—	2	—
Osteomyelitis ...	1	—	—	—	1
Elbow	1	—	—	—	1
Ankle.....	1	—	—	—	1
Leg.....	1	1	—	—	—
Skin of face	1	—	—	1	—
	25	4	2	12	7

The number of cases who have received special treatment under the Insurance Act was :—

Sanatorium 4

Domiciliary..... 9

The cases treated and notified from Hospital were as follows :—

TUBERCULOSIS OF LUNGS—

Manchester Consumption Hospital 6

„ Northern Hospital 1

OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS—

Manchester Royal Infirmary 5

„ Children's Hospital..... 4

„ Northern Hospital 2

„ Skin Hospital..... 1

Oldham Royal Infirmary 1

Salford Hospital 1

Total 21

The occupations of the persons notified in 1913 were as follows :

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.
Cotton Mills	20	8
Weavers	2	1
Dyers and Finishers	3	...
Print Works	1	1
Packers, and Making up	3	...
Labourers	7	3
Jam Works.	2	...
Velvet Makers	2	...
Domestic	6	2
School	6	6
Under School Age ... ..	...	4
Carter	2	<hr/> 25 <hr/>
Bricklayer... ..	1	
Grocer's Assistant	1	
Clogger	1	
Greengrocer	1	
Joiner	1	
Hairdresser	1	
Bath Attendant	1	
	<hr/> 61 <hr/>	

HOUSING.

The structural condition of the houses was found to be satisfactory in eighty cases ; three were very old houses requiring alteration. The majority were satisfactory as regards cleanliness ; six were fairly clean and four dirty.

There were several cases of overcrowding and isolation was practically impossible. In one case 13 persons slept in three bedrooms, and the patient had one of these rooms to himself, so that the other rooms were seriously overcrowded. Another case, of nine in a family, occupied three bedrooms ; there was only one fire-

place—which was blocked up—and the windows did not open. A third case : there were two bedrooms with seven occupants.

Nurse Hollingshead visits every house from which a case has been notified, and reports to me all serious defects that she finds. These defects are remedied as far as possible, and in the case of overcrowded houses persuasion is tried, to induce the people to occupy houses with better bedroom accommodation. This is, of course, not successful in all cases, as in many it is quite impossible from financial reasons ; but where the income of the family is sufficiently large to allow of a greater expenditure on rent, the only excuse offered is the difficulty in finding a suitable house and the unwillingness of the owners of houses to let to persons with large families.

Disinfection is carried out in all cases where a patient has died from Tuberculosis of the Lungs. The bedding is treated in the Steam Disinfector, and the house fumigated with formalin vapour. This is also done when a patient leaves for a Sanatorium. Sputum bottles are supplied, and the card issued by the “ Medical Officer ” is left at those houses where the persual of it is likely to be of use.

Nurse Hollingshead reports as follows :—

“ Since June I have visited 100 Tuberculosis cases, some of which date back to 1909. The total visits paid during the year in connection with these cases was 412. Every case has been visited at least once, and the majority have been re-visited at intervals of about four weeks. Some of the patients have been in hospital for surgical treatment, others as out-patients. There were two lung cases (men) who were not insured. These are sad cases : poverty and lack of proper food, in addition to disease and inability to work. The necessity for supervision is demonstrated by such cases as the following :—Two cases of Phthisis have occurred in one family within two years, and a third has been notified lately. In another case there were two beds in one room, occupied by two sisters and two brothers, all over 20 years of age. One Phthisis case slept in a damp bedroom ; they have now removed to a better house and their former house has been cleaned and re-

paired. Another crowded family have removed to a larger house. It is quite a common occurrence to find 4 or 5 people occupying one bedroom, the chimney blocked up and the windows closed, the younger children sleeping in the same room as the patient. Much argument is necessary to impress upon many of the people the dangers arising from these methods of living, especially the danger to the young.

Cases have arisen where a man with a family has had difficulty in obtaining the clothing which he is told to take with him when he has at last been admitted to Sanatorium under the Insurance Act. We have helped one man in the matter, but many feel very anxious on the subject and are ready to give up the idea of going, rather than further impoverish those left behind."

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

MEASLES.—During the year 1913, only 36 cases were notified to me from the Schools, in comparison with 222 in 1912. All the cases were visited by Nurse Holt, who gave advice as to isolation and Medical attendance.

The highest numbers occurring in any one month were fourteen cases in October in five different schools, and ten cases in August in three different schools.

Three children died from Measles during the year ; their ages were 12, 16, and 16 months respectively, and they died in the months of January, August, and September. In two cases the secondary cause of death was Pneumonia, and in one Convulsions.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Twelve cases only were reported, nine in March, and one each in June, September, and October. There were no deaths.

In 1912 there were 40 cases and 16 deaths.

CHICKEN POX.—Eighty-one cases were reported : the chief schools affected being Naticnal, with 25 cases ; Thornham, with 13 ; Durnford Street and Elm Street, with 10 each ; Rhodes with 12, and Tonge with 8.

There was one death from this disease, a child of 6 months, the secondary cause of death being Convulsions.

In 1912 there were 99 cases reported.

MUMPS.—Forty-nine cases were reported, in comparison with 107 in 1912. The chief source of these cases was Birch School, with 35. The disease was epidemic in the village in October and November.

GERMAN MEASLES.—This disease occurred in a mild epidemic form in November, during which month 15 cases were reported from four schools, and continued in December, when 10 further cases were reported from four schools.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following are the particulars of the specimens sent to the Public Health Laboratory, in Manchester :—

	Positive	Negative	Total
Blood for Typhoid Baccilli	2	9	11
Swabs for Diphtheria Baccilli ...	...	2	2
Sputum for Tubercular Bacilli ...	21	65	86
Total	23	76	99

Ten samples of milk were sent for examination : seven gave negative results, and three positive. Two were microscopic examinations, and both specimens were found to contain Tubercle Bacilli, and the other eight were tested by inoculation, one of which was found to cause Tuberculosis. One sample of water was sent for examination and found to be free from Bacillus Coli.

NURSE'S VISITS.

The following is a resume of the visits paid by the Health Visitor during the year : Nurse Torrop up to June, and Nurse Hollingshead from June to the end of the year.

In connection with the Notifications of Births Act ...	892
In connection with Tuberculosis.....	412
Total	<hr/> 1304 <hr/>



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

WATER SUPPLY.

This is abundant and of first-rate quality. It is governed by the Heywood and Middleton Joint Water Board. The gathering ground is upland moor and is irreproachable. The low degree of hardness of the water renders the warning given in previous years necessary, that, especially in the early morning, when the water has been in the lead pipes of the service during the night, it should be allowed to run for a short time from the tap before any is taken for drinking.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The condition of the streams passing through the Borough is still bad, and they are all foul. There is a slight improvement in their condition, but mainly due to the generally favourable condition of the weather during the year.

DISINFECTION.

This is carried out on the same lines as in previous years. The Thresh Steam Disinfector is used for the treatment of infected bedding and clothing, and house disinfection is carried out by means of Fomalin Vapour. This is employed after all cases of Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Enteric, as soon as possible after the patient has been removed to hospital, or has been declared free from infection by the doctor in attendance. The same routine is carried out in connection with cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, either when the patient leaves home for Sanatorium treatment or other reasons, and in every instance where death has occurred.

All the schools have been thoroughly sprayed on several occasions during the year.

HOSPITAL.

The agreement with the County Borough of Rochdale for the treatment at their Hospital at Marland of cases of Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever arising in the Borough, continues in force as in previous years.

The cases are conveyed in our own brougham ambulance.

The number of cases of each disease sent to Hospital during the year was as follows :—

	Cases.	Sent to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	107	49
Diphtheria	8	4
Enteric Fever.....	5	4
Suspected Small Pox	1	1
Total	121	58

One case of Scarlet Fever died in Hospital.

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

The number of Sanitary Can Closets converted during the year to the Water Carriage system, was 156. The number in the previous four years was 178 in 1912, 110 in 1911, 203 in 1910, and 334 in 1909.

The following figures give the numbers of each type of closet accommodation in the Borough at the end of 1913.

Water Closets.....	2110
Waste Water Closets	3600
Sanitary Cans	454
Privies	6

The conversions made during 1913 were :—

To Water Closets.....	115
To Waste Water Closets	41

The privies are all attached to farm houses in the Borough.

The Ashpit Refuse is destroyed at the Refuse Destructor. There have been 31 Wall Bins added during the year, and Portable Bins have increased by 111. There is a reduction of 38 in the number of open ashpits.

The number of each type of receptacle in the Borough at the end of the year was :—

Wall Bins (Quines)	510
Portable Bins	1410
Brick Ashpits	1743
Open Ashpits	39

I again suggest that this number of brick ashpits, and especially of open ashpits, is a constant source of disgust, annoyance, and danger to the inhabitants of the Borough, and that the householders should be compelled to use properly covered Portable Bins for their household refuse.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES,

AND OTHER PREMISES CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS.

There are eleven Slaughter Houses in the Borough, of which 3 are licensed and the remainder registered. Mr. Norton has paid 660 visits to these establishments during the year. They have generally been found satisfactory, but in one case the premises were in a dirty condition and the proprietor was cautioned.

The Bakehouses have also been regularly visited, and no serious cause of complaint was found.

The common Lodging Houses, of which there are seven, registered in the Borough, have been visited on 642 occasions and found generally in a fairly satisfactory condition as to cleanliness and overcrowding.

There is only one offensive trade in the Borough, and this has been regularly supervised.

Eighty-five visits have been made to the Dairies and Cowsheds in the Borough, which are, with three exceptions, on farms. The average cleanliness of the premises is, on the whole, better than in previous years, and in a few cases the care taken to obtain clean

milk is quite satisfactory ; but the majority of the farmers still believe in close, stuffy shippens and have no inclination to take the trouble to keep the cattle clean, or to wash the udder before milking, or even to insure that their hands are clean, before the operation of milking.

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary condition and the Water Supply of the Schools in the Borough is generally good. In the course of my frequent visits to the schools I have not found any serious cause of complaint, and the duties of the caretakers are carried out in a satisfactory manner.

FOOD.

Milk — This is generally of good quality, and the supply is almost entirely conducted by farmers whose farms are within the Borough boundary, and who deliver the milk direct to the consumers.

Thirty-eight samples of milk were taken by Mr. Norton during the year, and submitted to the County Analyst for report. One sample was 25 % deficient in fat, one slightly deficient in cream, one slightly watered. Eleven were rich, and one very rich.

In the case of 25 % deficiency in fat, the vendor was brought before the Magistrates, who dismissed the case.

Meat — Inspection is carried out as thoroughly as possible by Mr. Norton in the course of his visits to the Slaughter Houses. Two thousand, eight hundred and twenty-five pounds weight has been seized and destroyed during the year, as being diseased, unsound, or otherwise unfit for human consumption.

Four whole carcasses and portions of one other were condemned for Tuberculosis.

No legal proceedings were necessary, as in all cases the meat was surrendered by the butchers, who had themselves drawn the attention of the Meat Inspector to its condition.

HOUSING.

Of the houses tabulated in the 1912 Report, as having been condemned, and in connection with which closing orders were made, all have been dealt with during the year 1913, and the closing orders determined.

The following houses were demolished :—

Hole Bottom.

3, Butcher Yard.

4, Butcher yard.

1a off Oldham Road, and 5a Lester Street were closed, and are unoccupied.

The remainder of these houses have been altered or repaired and made into satisfactory dwelling-places. The back to back houses have been made into through houses, or, in three cases, side doors have been made and the through ventilation made possible.

During the year 1913, the number of dwelling-houses inspected by Mr. Norton was 578.

The houses unfit for human habitation were	2
The houses Reported to the Committee	22
Closing Orders made	18
Notices under Section 15	5
The houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders, after preliminary notice...	7
Without any notice being served	13
Closing orders determined	21
Houses demolished	3
Houses unoccupied	2

The following Table gives a statement of these houses, and the various defects found, together with result of the action of the Committee :—

HOUSES REPORTED TO THE COMMITTEE DURING 1913.

Situation.	Defects.	Action taken by Committee.
34, Chapel Street	Defective bedroom floors, stairs, window frames. Waste pipe and downspout. Kitchen window unopenable. Unpaved yard, foul ashpit.	Condemned — Work carried out except yard paving.

Situation.	Defects.	Action taken by the Committee.
36, Chapel Street	Defective eaves gutter, window frames and waste pipe. Unpaved yard. Requires pointing.	Condemned — Work carried out except yard
15, Water Street 17, Water Street	Old delapidated houses, not fit for habitation. Defective yards, eaves gutter, stairs, roof, and floors. Damp. No ventilation.	Both are closed and used for storing old boxes, etc.
*Off Factorys	Back to back house. Bad ventilation	Condemned — Closing order made.
22, Marsden Street	Back to back house with	Condemned —
9 off Grimshaw Lane	Ventilation bad	Closing order made.
1. Marsden St., to 25 Marsden St.	These houses, 13 in number, are all defective. They have in many cases defective roofs and the bedrooms are damp. Window casings, stairs and floors are defective, and in some cases, dangerous. The closets are in a dangerous condition, and the whole property is very dilapidated.	Condemned

* This house was back to a through house, and has since the closing order was made, been added to the through house.

Houses in respect to which notices were served under Section 15 of the Housing and Town Planning Act :—

Situation of House.	Defects.
1, 3, 5, and 7 Oswald Street	Window casings, walls and backyards, Floors, back doors. Abolish existing ashpits and substitute wall or portable bins.

These houses have been repaired and rendered more suitable for habitation, except as regards the ashpits.

Situation of House.	Defects.
100, Higher Wood Street	No back door, defective kitchen floor ; waste pipe and downspout connected to untrapped drains.

The work necessary for reparation of this house is at present—April, 1914—in hand.

Houses in respect to which defects were remedied without the making of closing orders :—

Situation of House.	Defect.	Remedy.
1 Greenhill	Back to back. Untrapped drain defective passage.	Made into through house.
1 off Greenhill	Back to back. Untrapped drain Defective pavement	
3 Greenhill	No back door, untrapped drain damp bedroom.	Back door provided.
5 Greenhill	Ditto. ditto.	ditto.
7 Greenhill	Ditto. ditto.	ditto.

These houses have all been re-drained, properly trapped, and the yards partly flagged, making the property quite satisfactory.

1 Sharp Street	No back door, insufficient closet accommodation.	Nothing
3 and 5 Sharp St.	No back doors, downspout connected to untrapped drain.	done

The owners of No. 1, Sharp Street wish to demolish this house, but as the yard opens into licensed premises, the sanction of the Magistrates is required. Application has been made, but the permission was refused.

20, Spring Gardens	Defective roof, damp bedroom, defective floors. Insufficient foul ashpit.	Repairs made.
15, Ashton Lane	Defective roof and window frame. Damp bedrooms.	Repairs made.
†2 to 26 Shaw Street (13 Houses.)	Floors, roofs, window casings caves gutters, etc., etc.	

† All these have been repaired under the supervision of the Housing Inspector.

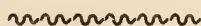
New Houses.—The number of Houses certified during the year ending December, 1913, was 69.

Houses in course of erection, 24.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

One hundred and twenty-five visits have been made by Mr. Norton to the Factories and Workshops in the Borough.

In one case want of clealiness was complained of and remedied, otherwise the conditons found were quite satisfactory.



I beg to acknowledge the courtesy of Mr. Norton, who has supplied most of the figures for this portion of the Report ; of Mr. Welburn, the Borough Surveyor, for the figures as to New Houses in the Borough, and of Mr. Quarmby, the Clerk to the Guardians, for the figures as to outdoor relief.

LOCAL ACTS AND ADOPTION ACTS IN FORCE IN THE BOROUGH.

The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, adopted February 5th, 1891.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, adopted February 5th, 1891.

The Private Street Works Act, 1892, adopted October 8th, 1892.

The Notification of Births Act, 1907, adopted July 1st, 1908.

The Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, making Ophthalmia Neonatorum a Notifiable Disease, adopted June 1st, 1910.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Part II., Section 34 to 38, and 43 to 51 in Part III., Park IV., V., and VI., and Sections 93 and 95, Part X., came into operation April 11th, 1910.

Sections 79 and 81 of Part VII. and Part VIII., approved, came into force February 3rd, 1910.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Part IV., came into operation October 1st, 1911.

The Middleton Corporation Act, 1910.

Byelaws relating to :—

Offensive Trades, made on May 29th, 1883, allowed August 1st, 1883.

New Streets and Buildings, made on October 25th, 1894, allowed May 3rd, 1895.

Sanitary Conveniences, made on July 4th, 1895, allowed August 12th, 1895

Water Closets and Waste Water Closets, made on April 1st 1903, allowed July 10th, 1903.

New Streets, made on December 7th, 1904, allowed October 10th, 1905.

Houses Let in Lodgings, made on April 7th, 1909, allowed June 5th, 1909.

Regulations relating to :—

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, made February, 1911, came into operation April 1st, 1911.

Management of Sanitary Conveniences, made on October 25th, 1894.

Inspection of New Drains and Buildings, made October 1st, 1896.

TABLE I.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1913 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1908	27,500	.....	627	22.8	375	13.6	...	69	96	153	444	16.1
1909	27,750	.....	642	23.1	348	12.5	...	59	73	114	407	14.6
1910	28,000	.....	678	24.2	340	12.1	...	69	68	100	409	14.6
1911	28,000	643	645	23	394	14	2	74	117	181	466	16.6
1912	28,300	600	607	21.4	354	12.5	...	74	71	117	428	15.1
1913	28,550	596	599	21	298	10.4	3	74	59	98	369	12.8

Area of District in acres)
(land and inland water).

4,741

Total Population at all ages, 27,983
Number of Inhabited Houses, 6,547
Average number of persons per house 4.27

At Census of 1911 (cf. Census Vol. V.)

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during the Year 1913.

Notifiable Diseases.	Number of Cases Notified.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality. (<i>e.g.</i> Parish or Ward) of the District.					Total Cases Removed to Hospital.		
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.						1 North Ward.	2 Central Ward.	3 South Ward.	4 East Ward.	5 Parkfield Ward.		6 West Ward.	
		Un- der 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65								65 and up's.
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including membranous Croup)	8	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	...	1	3	4
Erysipelas	9	...	...	2	4	3	...	...	2	1	1	2	2	1	...
Scarlet Fever	107	2	27	71	6	1	...	51	6	10	23	8	9	49	...
Typhus Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	5	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	4	...
Relapsing Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculo- sis.....	61	...	...	6	15	28	12	5	8	8	24	12	4	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	25	1	3	9	7	4	1	5	2	4	9	2	3	...	...
Totals	218	3	35	89	35	39	17	63	21	29	61	25	19	57	...

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District (a)								
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
ALL CAUSES—									
Certified (c)	364	57	16	7	19	18	50	96	101
Uncertified	5	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Small Pox.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	8	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	1
Erysipelas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	21	...	...	...	2	4	8	7	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	7	...	...	...	5	1	3	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	19	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	10
Rheumatic Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Meningitis.....	5	2	...	...	2	1	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	36	1	...	...	2	2	7	15	9
Bronchitis.....	38	3	4	1	...	...	...	11	19
Pneumonia (all forms)	40	11	5	2	2	3	6	5	6
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	14	10	2	1	...	...	...	...	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	3	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Alcoholism	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	28	...	1	...	...	1	6	13	7
Puerperal Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of Preg- nancy and Parturition	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	23	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	13	...	1	...	3	1	3	1	4
Suicide	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...
Other Defined Diseases	97	9	1	2	2	4	9	26	44
Diseases ill-defined or unknown .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	369	59	17	7	19	18	50	98	101

TABLE IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1913—Nett Deaths from stated causes
at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES—											
Certified .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Uncertified .....		..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2
{ Small-pox .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Chicken-pox .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
{ Measles .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Scarlat Fever .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Whooping Cough.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Diphtheria and Croup .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...		..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2
Convulsions .....		..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	4
Laryngitis.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis .....		..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	3
Pneumonia (all forms) .....		..	1	..	1	2	1	1	2	5	11
{ Diarrhoea .....		..	..	1	..	3	2	1	..	..	6
{ Enteritis .....		..	1	1	..	2	..	2	..	..	4
Gastritis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Syphilis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suffocation, overlying .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Injury at Birth .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atelectasis .....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Congenital Malformations		1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
{ Premature Birth		9	1	1	..	11	3	1	..	..	15
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ..		1	1	1	2	5	1	1	..	..	7
Other Causes .....		..	1	..	1	2	1	1	..	..	4
TOTALS		11	5	4	6	26	10	9	7	7	59

Nett Births in the Year	{ Legitimate ...	581
	{ Illegitimate ...	18

Nett Deaths in the Year of	{ Legitimate Infants	... 56
	{ Illegitimate Infants	... 3

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT,

Corporation Street, Middleton.



SANITARY INSPECTOR'S

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ended 31st December, 1913.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have very much pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Eighteenth Annual Report on the work carried out by the Sanitary Department during the year 1913.

You will notice that much work has again been carried out and that many insanitary conditions affecting the health and comfort of the inhabitants of the Borough have been removed, and that much progress has been made in the sanitary condition of the district ; but there still remains much work to be done to bring the sanitary condition of the Borough to a satisfactory condition.

But, however much work is done, and money spent, it is of no use unless the public will do their share in keeping the the sanitary fittings, when provided, in proper condition.

Almost every year there is some addition to the duties to be carried out by this department, and you will notice on this occasion there is the Tuberculosis Order mentioned for the first time, and I have no doubt if its provisions are properly carried out, that the number of diseased cattle in the country will be considerably reduced.

I beg to acknowledge the assistance I have received from the Assistant Inspector in the carrying out of the many duties of the department.

I also beg to tender my heartiest thanks to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the various committees it is my privilege to serve, for their kindness and support in the performance of the varied and onerous duties of the department during the year.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HY. NORTON,

Sanitary Inspector

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR 1913.

Formal Notices served under the Public Health Act, 1875 ...	9
" " " " " re Black smoke	6
" " " Local Government Boards Pro- visional Order Confirmation Act (No.) 5	68
Preliminary Notices, re Nuisances	274
Houses inspected under Housing and Town Planning Act ...	578
" reported " " " " ...	22
No. of Smoke Observations taken	160
No. of Samples of Food submitted for analysis	66
Amount of diseased or unsound meat seized .....lbs.	2825
Prosecutions re Black Smoke	31
" " Nuisances on Property.....	3
" " Adulterations, etc. of Food	1
Number of Canal Boats inspected	58
Cases of Infectious Disease reported	133
Patients removed to Marland Hospital	60
Rooms disinfected in consequence of having been occupied by persons suffering from an infectious disease	401
Visits to cases of infectious disease	406
" " Slaughter Houses	660
" " Common Lodging Houses	642
" " Offensive Trades	52
" " Dairies and Cowsheds.....	85
" " Factories, Workshops, etc.	125

NUISANCES FOUND DURING THE YEAR 1913.

Sanitary can closets	185
Foul Privies	5
Insufficient Closet accommodation	1
Closets without doors	9
Dangerous Closet roof.....	1
Foul Ashpits	15
Ashpits without doors	36
" " roofs	6
Insufficient Ashpit accommodation	7

Ashbins without covers	6
Insufficient Ashpits	16
Choked Waste Water Closets	34
,, Drains	21
,, Downspouts	2
Downspouts connected to untrapped drains	23
Waste Pipe connected to untrapped drain	1
Foul Drain	1
Brick Drain	1
Untrapped Drains	35
,, Waste Pipe.....	1
Bell Trap	1
Greenhouse used as Dwelling-house.....	1
Sewage in Cellar	1
Dirty Back Yard	1
Offensive Manure Heaps	2
One common approach to male and female closets (factory)...	1
Dangerous Dwelling-house wall	1
Dirty Bakehouse	1
Unpaved Back Yard.....	1
Damp Bedroom Wall	1
Defective Drains	4
,, Ashbins	16
,, W.C. cisterns	16
,, Waste Pipes	28
,, Eaves Gutters	8
,, Closet Roofs	4
,, Downspouts	31
,, W.C. Pedestals	4
,, Channels	5
,, Dwelling-house roofs	3
,, Back Yards	6
,, W.W.C.	1
,, Sanitary Cans	2
,, W.C.'s.	2
,, Ashpit Roofs	2
,, W.C. Basins	4
,, Trap	1
,, Cellar Floor	1

NUISANCES ABATED DURING THE YEAR 1913.

Privies converted to Water Closets	3
Sanitary Can Closets converted to Water Closets	165
Additional Closet Accommodation provided	2
Closet Roofs provided	3
„ door „	1
Waste Water Closet Pedestals repaired	3
Water Closet Pedestals repaired	7
„ „ Cisterns „	14
Choked Waste Water Closets opened.....	35
Choked Water Closets Opened	2
Sufficient Flush provided to W.C.	2
Sanitary Cans provided	5
Foul Ashpits done away with	10
Ashpits furnished with proper doors	22
Ash Bins provided	34
Additional Ashpit accommodation provided	5
Ashpit doors repaired	2
Choked Drains opened	23
Choked Downspout opened	1
Dwelling-house roofs repaired	3
Back Yards repaired.....	11
Waste Pipes repaired	25
Back Yards paved and flagged	4
Downspouts repaired	26
Eaves Gutters repaired	8
Defective Drains repaired	2
Cellar Floor repaired.....	1
Channels repaired	3
Downspouts disconnected from drains	26
Drains trapped	33
Houses provided with back doors	3
Dirty House cleaned	1
Dirty Bakehouse cleaned	1
Eathenware Trap substituted for defective Iron Trap	1
Houses provided with a sufficient Water Supply.....	4
Separate entrances provided to male and female closets	1

Eathenware Pipes substituted for Brick Drain	1
Sewage removed from Cellars	2
Bath waste pipe trapped	1
Eathenware Trap substituted for Bell trap	1
Offensive Manure Heap removed	1
Greenhouse closed as Dwelling-house	1
Dirty Back Yard cleaned.....	1

NUANCES UNABATED.

Sanitary Can Closets.....	91
Closets without Doors	8
Insufficient Ashpit accommodation	5
Ashpits not furnished with proper doors and coverings	4
House without back door	1
Foul Privy	1
Untrapped Drains	11
No Channel from waste pipe to drain	1
Dangerous Eaves Gutters.....	1
Downspouts connected to untrapped drains.....	7
Unpaved Back yard	1
Wood Boxes for Ashpits	3
Dangerous Ashpits	1
Dangerous Dwelling-house wall	1
Choked Drains	5
Damp Bedroom	1
Defective Back Yards	5
„ Waste Pipes	9
„ Eaves Gutters	2
„ Downspouts	7
„ Ash Bins	8
„ W.W.C. Tippers	1
„ Channel.....	1
„ W.C. Cistern	1
„ Roof	1
„ W.C. Pedestal	1
„ Channel.....	1
Waste Pipes connected to untrapped drains	2
Defective W.C.	1
Foul Ashpits	8

During the year, two hundred and seventy-four Preliminary Notices have been served, requiring the abatement of Nuisances arising from the foregoing defects.

Two hundred and fourteen of the Preliminary Notices were complied with without having to trouble your Committee to serve Formal Notices.

In nine cases it was necessary to ask for Formal Notices to be served upon the person by whose act or default the nuisance arose, or continued, and in six cases the Notice was complied with.

In three cases it was necessary to summon the offenders before the Magistrates in order to obtain the abatement of the Nuisances, and in each case the work was carried out and the Nuisance abated, before the case was heard, so they were withdrawn on the defendants paying the cost of the summons.

Three foul privies have been converted to the Water Carriage System, which leave not more than about three old privies in the Borough which it is possible to convert to closets on the Water Carriage System.

One hundred and sixty-five closets have been converted to Closets on the Water Carriage System, which has again considerably reduced the number of closets of this description, and during the coming year I am hoping that where there is sewer accommodation, the remaining few will be converted, and that we shall be relieved from the effluvia and annoyance caused by the abominable conveyance system.

There are still a few of the old type of ashpit, with the four walls and without covers, in the Borough. They are situated in the out-districts, and I am hoping that in the near future to see them abolished, for, as a rule, they become very foul and a nuisance.

There are, however, a good many fixed brick ashpits in the centre of the Borough, and although they are provided with doors and coverings, the action of the tenants in disposing of liquids of

various deceptions by throwing them into what was intended for dry ashes only, have caused many of them to be almost as foul and insanitary as the old privy midden.

The wall and portable bin system is, owing to the action of your Committee, making progress, but they could, with advantage to everybody concerned, increase at a much more rapid rate, and so dispense with the nuisance arising from the foul ashpits referred to above.

The wall or portable bin will also become a nuisance if used, I have several times seen them used, for the deposit of liquids, and solids containing considerable moisture.

The ashpits, of whatever type, are intended for the deposit of dry ashes only, and all liquids should be poured down the drains, then householders would be spared the nuisance arising from this source.

I would also point out that any person pouring offensive liquids into ashpits is liable to be prosecuted for causing a nuisance.

The house drainage is receiving more attention than formerly, and with the testing of drains before being passed, will, as far as possible, remove all danger of either nuisances or disease arising from careless or negligent construction.

On going round the district it is surprising the number of gully traps that are choked, and the waste water runs down the yards and into the back passage, to the annoyance not only of those residing in the vicinity, but to everyone using the back passage. This nuisance could be easily avoided if householders would only take the trouble to clean out the gully traps once per week.

A great amount of trouble is still caused by the continued choking of Waste Water Closets, persuasion, threats, and notices have all failed to effect more care on the part of the householders, and the only remedy which has not been tried is taking the offenders before the magistrates, and it is to be hoped that it will not be necessary to take proceedings in such cases as these.

Much could be done by tenants in the way of keeping houses and yards in better condition than they are, by cleaning out gullies seeing that nothing but dry ashes are put in the ashpit, and that tins bricks, rags, etc., are not allowed to be thrown down the pedestals of the slopwater closets. By paying a little more attention to these matters they would save themselves much inconvenience and annoyance and expense in having repairs carried out.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Removed to Hospital.	Rooms disin- fected.
Small Pox	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4
Scarlet Fever	4	1	5	1	4	2	13	3	9	17	25	23	107	51	356
Enteric Fever	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	3	11
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	2	2	1	8	5	30'
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	1	1	1	2	9	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Total	5	4	7	2	7	3	17	3	11	20	28	26	133	60	401

I have visited and investigated the whole of the foregoing cases, and have taken such precautions as were necessary to prevent the spread of the various diseases.

During the month of April, a case of Small Pox was reported. The patient was at once removed to Marland Hospital ; the house, bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected, and the remainder of those living in the house quarantined, and all the necessary steps were taken to prevent the spread of this dreaded disease. Fortunately, after being in Hospital some few days, it was ascertained that the disease was not Small Pox, and the patient returned home, and the inmates were at once set at liberty, and all anxiety on this account was set at rest.

You will notice that there has been a considerable increase in the number of cases of infectious disease during the year 1913, as compared with the year 1912. The increase has been due to an outbreak of Scarlet Fever, which began to increase very rapidly during the month of October, and despite every precaution taken, the disease continued to spread, and showed no signs of abatement at the end of the year.

Although several adults were attacked by the disease, the larger number of cases occurred amongst school children, and from investigation I have no doubt there must have been some very mild cases which were overlooked, and perhaps many of the cases would have been avoided if parents had called in a doctor earlier to see their children, and have ascertained at the earliest possible moment the illness from which their children were suffering.

Several cases occurred at the extreme end of the Borough, and these in all probability contracted the disease in a neighbouring district, where the disease had been prevalent for some time.

The number of cases of Enteric Fever and Diphtheria are the same as for 1912, viz. : five and eight respectively

This is a small number for a Borough the size of Middleton, but it would have been a much pleasanter task to report a decrease,

Three of the cases of Enteric Fever occurred in one house, the first patient being a baby two years of age, the father and mother afterwards contracting the disease from nursing the patient.

Every effort was made by the Medical Officer and myself to ascertain the source from which the child contracted the disease, but it was of no avail.

Fortunately, the precautions taken to prevent the spread of this disease were successful, the disease being confined to this one house.

Sixty persons suffering from an infectious disease have been removed to Marland Hospital for isolation.

Four hundred and one rooms have been disinfected in consequence of having been occupied by persons suffering from infectious disease.

DISINFECTION OF BEDDING, CLOTHING, Etc.

Nine hundred and forty-seven articles of bedding, clothing, etc., which had been in contact with persons suffering from an infectious disease, have been disinfected in the Steam Disinfector, and in no case has it been possible to trace any disease to any article which has been treated by this process, and no complaints have been received of any article being damaged by this process.

This shows that great care has again been taken in the disinfection of all articles treated at the disinfecting station, and I wish to acknowledge the services of Alfred Booth, who has carried out the whole of this work.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

During the year, one hundred and sixty Smoke Observations have been taken, and black smoke has been emitted for a period of 9 hours, 35 minutes, and 35 seconds, whilst during the previous year eighty-six observations were taken, and black smoke was emitted for 4 hours, 50 minutes, and 50 seconds.

The average time black smoke was emitted during the year 1913 was 3 minutes and 35.65 seconds, which is an increase 13.65 seconds per observation when compared with the year 1912. The increase is due to observations only being taken of chimneys which from observation were likely to be near or exceed the limit allowed by the Corporation.

The limit of five minutes emission of black smoke per half-hour has been exceeded on thirty-eight occasions, and thirty-one firms have been prosecuted, and fines amounting to £8 13s., and costs to £12 17s. 6d. have been inflicted by the Magistrates. In the remaining cases six were served with Formal Notices to abate the nuisance, and the remaining three having been taken by request, no further action was necessary.

In two cases two firms were summoned for one offence, as they both used the same chimney, and, therefore, each was liable as if they were separate offences.

Four cases were dismissed by the magistrates : two by our local bench, and two by the Magistrates sitting in the Chadderton Police Court.

The two cases dismissed in the Middleton Police Court were, on account of clerical errors in taking the observations, and the usual rule of giving the defendant the benefit of the doubt was followed in each case.

In the other two cases the way they were dealt with was very unsatisfactory, as they were dismissed without any evidence being given for the defence, which is a most unusual proceeding. The cases were against two firms situated just outside our boundary and in the district of Chadderton, therefore, the proceedings had to be taken in the Chadderton Police Court.

These cases were twice before the Magistrates ; on the first occasion there were four magistrates on the bench, and although no evidence was given for the defence, the Magistrates failed to agree and ordered the cases to stand over and be re-heard on the next Court day.

On the re-hearing there were only two Magistrates on the bench, and after the evidence for the prosecution had been given, the solicitor for the defence put one of the mill managers in the witness box for the purpose of giving evidence, but on cross examination he had to admit that he knew nothing about the chimney during the time for which they were summoned, so that there was again really no evidence for the defence ; but notwithstanding the weight of evidence being in favour of the prosecution, the cases were dismissed. No reason was given why the cases were dismissed, and perhaps it was as well there was not, for I cannot think of any explanation which would convince any one of the justice of dismissing a case of this nature without some evidence of the defendant's innocence.

Notwithstanding the increase in the average time black smoke was emitted during the year, there is undoubtedly less black smoke being discharged into the atmosphere than formerly, but there is room for further improvement still, and I have every confidence that by continuing to administer the law regarding black smoke in the same manner as in the past, we shall see further and greater improvements which will be better for everyone concerned.

I am pleased to inform you that many owners of works, managers, engineers, and firemen in the Borough are interesting themselves in this question, and are trying to reduce the amount of black smoke from the chimneys, and I am sure we wish them every success in their efforts.

There is no doubt that the nuisance can, and ought to be abated, and in order to show what can be done, I may say that many firms in the borough have succeeded in reducing the output of black smoke from their chimneys, to the benefit of everyone concerned.

Owing to the manner in which the law relating to black smoke has been administered in Middleton, the Smoke Abatement League have withdrawn their Inspector from our Borough.

There might, with advantage, be more uniformity by the various Local Authorities in the administration of this portion of the public Health Act, for it is most unfair and unjust for one district to do all in its power to secure the abatement of the nuisance from black

smoke, and have to suffer from a neighbouring Authority's neglect to carry out its duties relating to this nuisance. In cases where this does occur, the Authority which does its duty is entitled to protect its own district in the way the law provides.

At the present time, I believe, the Smoke Abatement League are intending trying to get a Bill introduced into Parliament to deal with this matter, as they are of opinion that the present Act is a failure. Should the Bill become law, it will necessitate the appointment of Inspectors to deal with this nuisance, and the lowering of the time limit, and the increase of penalties on convictions.

I don't know what chance there is of this Bill becoming law, but after some little experience in dealing with smoke abatement, I am of opinion that the present Act is good, and so far as Middleton is concerned much good work has been done under its provisions, and if administered by every Authority as intended it should be, there would be no necessity for outside interference or any change in the existing law.

REMOVAL OF NIGHTSOIL AND ASHES.

1913	Number of Pails.	NIGHTSOIL.		ASHES.		Total Cost per Month. £ s. d.	Loads delivered at Dest'r. £ s. d.	Clinkers removed from Dest'r. £ s. d.	Amount earned by removing Clinkers per Month. £ s. d.	1913
		No. of Loads.	Cost per Pail. d.	No. of Loads.	Cost per Load. s. d.					
Jan. .	3,795	73	1.020	510	3 0.94	78 9 10	487 5	186	9 6 0	. Jan.
Feb. .	2,744	49	.892	360	3 5.036	61 11 1	71 15 2	123	6 9 0	. Feb.
March	2,795	48	.904	366	3 6.934	65 9 6	76 0 2	121	6 1 0	March
April .	3,722	63	.891	583	3 0.074	87 12 7	101 9 1	153	7 13 0	. April
May .	2,648	45	.895	380	3 5.087	65 1 1	74 13 7	110*	5 10 0	. May
June .	2,746	48	.921	397	3 2.163	64 15 6	75 6 2	147	7 7 0	. June
July .	2,810	59	.920	474	5 4.084	79 3 4	92 6 8	159	7 19 0	. July
Aug. .	2,158	38	.952	346	3 7.4	61 9 8	70 0 10	127	6 7 0	. Aug.
Sep. .	2,810	53	1.012	374	3 5.548	64 14 11	76 11 11	126	6 6 0	. Sep.
Oct. .	3,075	59	1.027	470	3 5.036	80 7 3	93 16 7	154	7 14 0	. Oct.
Nov. .	2,344	48	1.078	372	3 5.492	64 6 3	74 16 11	133	6 13 0	. Nov.
Dec. .	2,972	60	1.063	482	2 3.950	80 4 8	93 8 0	145	7 5 0	. Dec.
Total	34,169	643		5,114		853 5 8	995 2 6	1690	84 10 0	Total.

	£	s.	d.
Total cost of removing nightsoil and ashes during the year 1913	995	2	6
Total Cost of removing nightsoil and Ashes during the year 1912	973	10	11
Increase	21	11	7

	£	s.	d.
Cost per load ashes and pail refuse, 1913	0	3	5.484
„ „ „ „ 1912.....	0	3	4.300
Increase	0	0	1.184

Number of Pails emptied, 1913.....	34169
„ „ „ 1912.....	46007
Decrease	11838

Number of loads pail refuse 1913.....	643
„ „ „ 1912.....	837
Decrease	194

	£	s.	d.
Cost of emptying Pails 1913.....	141	10	10
„ „ 1912.....	193	4	5
Decrease	51	13	7

	£	s.	d.
Cost per load Pail refuse 1913.....	0	4	4.83
„ „ „ 1912.....	0	4	7.4
Decrease.....	0	0	2.57

Number of loads of ashes removed during year 1913.	5114
„ „ „ „ „ 1912.	4961
Increase	153

	£	s.	d.
Cost of removing ashes 1913.....	853	5	8
" " 1912.....	780	6	0
Increase	72	19	8

	£	s.	d.
Cost per load removing ashes 1913.....	0	3	4.043
" " " 1912.....	0	3	1.748
Increase	0	0	2.295

Number of loads of ashes delivered at destructor 1913	4875
" " " " " 1912	4558
Increase	317

Number of loads of clinkers removed from destructor 1913	1690
Number of loads of clinkers removed from destructor 1912.....	1703
Decrease	13

	£	s.	d.
Amount received removing clinkers 1913.....	84	10	0
" " " " 1912.....	85	3	0
Decrease	1	13	0

Clinkers carted to Sewage Works 1913.....	22
" " " " 1912.....	197
Decrease	175

Amount earned carting clinkers to Sewage Works 1913	1	13	0
Amount earned carting clinkers to Sewage Works 1912	14	15	0
Decrease	13	2	0

	£	s.	d.
Total amount earned during 1913—.....	86	3	0
" " " 1912.....	99	18	6
Decrease	13	15	6

On perusal of the foregoing you will notice that there has been a decrease in the cost of removing pail refuse. This is due to the reduction in the number of closets on the pail system. This expense may be further reduced by having the remaining closets, which are situated near the sewers, converted to the Water Carriage System. The cost per pail may appear to be somewhat excessive, but when the long distance between closets on this system is taken into consideration, I don't think it will be found that much, if any, expense can be saved in this work.

There is also an increase in the cost of removing ashes, this is due to bringing the refuse from Slattocks to the destructor, and the increases in the number of houses in the Borough. Many of the houses are built at a considerable distance from the destructor, and, of course, adds largely to the cost of removing the refuse.

There has also been a decrease in the amount of money earned by the department, this is largely due to the Surveyor's Committee not requiring any more clinkers at the Sewage Works. For carting the clinkers to the Sewage Works they used to pay so much per load but as this source is not stopped they have to be disposed of at the tip, for which we receive no pay.

Complaints are still being received of the nuisance of tipping ashes in the streets ; this is a form of nuisance which can only be obviated by the conversion of all existing ashpits to either portable or wall bins

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The following is a tabulated list of the articles of food which have been submitted to the County Analyst for the purpose of analysis.—

Article. Number.

Milk	38	One sample was reported to be 25 per cent deficient in fat, one slightly deficient in cream, one slightly watered, eleven were rich, and one very rich.
Gr'nd Ginger.	4	One slightly adulterated but passable.
Butter	5	
Irish Butter .	1	Slight excess of water.
Lard	2	
Pepper.....	4	One slightly adulterated, but passable.
Mustard	3	
Coffee	5	
Cheese	3	
Margerine	1	
Total	66	

From the above statement, you will see that so far as food adulteration is concerned, there is very little to complain about, the articles generally being of a good quality, and it shows that purveyors of food within the Borough are supplying to their customers food that is free from adulteration.

In one case of milk there was a deficiency of fat to the extent of 25 per cent. This was a serious matter and the vendor was summoned before the magistrates. On the case being heard the Magistrates, after hearing the defence, decided to dismiss the case.

There was also one sample of milk reported to be slightly deficient in cream, and one slightly watered..

The remaining samples of milk were all reported to be genuine, eleven of them rich, and one very rich.

The other samples taken were all grocery, and three of these were slightly adulterated.

In cases where there has been slight adulteration reported, the vendors have been watched and further samples taken, which turned out to be satisfactory.

CHILDREN'S ACT.

Eleven children have been engaged in the Theatre and Picture Palaces in the Borough, and in each case the children were visited during the performances and found to be cared for in a manner provided for in the Act.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Eighty-five visits have been paid to the Dairies and Cowsheds in the Borough, and I am pleased to report that there has again been an improvement in the conditions under which the dairy cattle are kept.

There is still the same reluctance on the part of farmers to provide sufficient ventilation of cowsheds, in fact in many instances all openings are stopped up, especially if the weather is a little cold, and the condition of the atmosphere inside the shippens can be easily imagined.

It is regrettable that cowkeepers will persist in this method of keeping the animals warm, for it is bound to lower their vitality and make them more susceptible to colds and other illness, and if the prevalence of tuberculosis in cattle is to be stamped out or even reduced, the animals will have to have a sufficient amount of fresh air circulating in the shippens.

There are still some cowkeepers who never cleanse their cattle, consequently they are covered with dirt, and the hind quarters are thick with dung, some of which is bound to fall into the milk pails during the process of milking, and although the solid particles are removed by straining, that portion which is soluble remains in a liquid condition in the milk, and although not discernable, the milk contains objectionable matter that it ought not to contain.

There are also cowkeepers in the Borough who obtain their milk under very cleanly conditions; they groom and wash the cattle regularly, and also wash the cows udders, and the milkers wash their hands before commencing to milk. If this system were adopted by all cowkeepers we should have very few, if any, complaints of dirty milk.

There has been no alteration of cowsheds during the year, but the higher standard of cleanliness has made the shippens much more suitable than they were.

The Milk and Dairies Bill, so long promised, has not yet found a place on the Statute Book, and if it ever does, it is to be hoped that it will contain provisions for enforcing the cleanliness of cattle, and the milker, and make the owner of cowsheds liable for all structural alterations. If this is done, then we shall have made an advance towards a clean milk supply, and the better and healthier conditions under which cattle are housed.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER.

The above Order has come into operation during the year, and two cows have been slaughtered under its provisions.

In the first case the owner of the cow reported that he had a cow which he suspected of suffering from tuberculosis. The cow was examined by the Veterinary Surgeon, and a sample of its milk was sent for bacteriaological examination, and it was reported that tubercle bacilli had been found in the milk ; the animal was slaughtered and on post mortem examination was found to be suffering from advanced tuberculosis, the whole of the internal organs being affected.

In the second case, a sample of the milk had been taken and found to contain tubercle bacilli. The animals on the farm were inspected by the Veterinary Surgeon, and four samples were taken from four suspected cows and sent for bacteriaological examination, one of which was found to contain tubercle bacilli.

The animal was slaughtered and found to be suffering from tubercle of the internal organs and udder.

In both cases the owners were paid compensation as provided for in the order.

The Order has no doubt been made with a view to reducing the number of milk cows which are suffering from tuberculosis, and by the proper administration of its provisions a good many diseased animals which are giving tuberculous milk will be done away with.

Much good may be done under the Order, and if its provisions were supplemented by the enforcement of more hygienic housing of cattle, something would be done towards preventing the further spread of the disease.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

There has been one hundred and twenty-five visits made to the factories, workshops, and work places in the Borough, and with one exception they were found to be satisfactory.

One bakehouse was found to be dirty and required limewashing. A Preliminary Notice was served on the occupier, which was complied with, and no further action was necessary.

Two notices of outworkers have been received, and the places where the work is carried on are in a satisfactory condition.

The workshops are generally kept in good condition and give very little trouble.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACT.

At the commencement of the year there were still some restrictions on Irish cattle which were brought into this country. Only one cow was brought into this district during the month of January which had to be isolated and visited by the Veterinary Surgeon, and kept under observation during the quarantine period. Shortly after the restrictions were removed and during the remainder of the year there was free movement of all cattle.

Two outbreaks of Parasitic Mange occurred during the year, and in both cases the animals were isolated until they recovered, when they were set free and the premises disinfected.

In both cases the precautions taken were successful in keeping the disease confined to the premises where the disease broke out.

At the present time there are no restrictions on the movement of animals, except pigs, either into or out of the Borough.

In the case of pigs, licenses are necessary when the movement is from, or to, districts outside the County.

There has been no outbreak of disease, except Parasitic Mange, in the Borough.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are eleven slaughter houses in the Borough, to which six hundred and sixty visits have been paid, and with one exception they were found satisfactory.

One slaughter house was found to be in a dirty condition the offender was cautioned and made an improvement, and is still being kept under observation.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Six hundred and forty-two visits have been paid to the above houses, and they have been found to be kept clean, free from overcrowding and infectious disease.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There is only one offensive trade in the Borough, and this has been carried on in a satisfactory manner.

UNSOUND AND DISEASED FOOD.

There has been two thousand eight hundred and twenty-five pounds of meat seized and destroyed.

The meat was all diseased or unsound and unfit for human food, hence its destruction.

In every case the meat was submitted for inspection and surrendered by the owners, so that we were saved the necessity of unpleasant proceedings.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

During the year fifty-eight canal boats have been inspected, and infringements of the Acts and Regulations were found on seven of the boats.

In four cases the captains of the boats did not produce the certificates when asked for, the cabins of two boats required painting, while in the remaining cases the deck lights were defective and water got into the sleeping place, causing it to be damp, and the cover on the entrance to the cabin was defective.

In each case the owners were notified of the defects by Formal Notices, which were complied with by the owners doing the necessary work to make the boats habitable and satisfactory.

The cabins of the boats were registered for two hundred and seventy-three persons, and were occupied by one hundred and seventeen men, nine women, and six children.

No case of infectious disease was discovered on any of the boats.

The cabins were clean and free from overcrowding, and infectious disease.

FOUL RIVERS.

The rivers which flow through the Borough are still contaminated by much foul matter, but I am pleased to report an improvement in their condition during the last twelve months.

The River Wince, which has been the worst offender for many years, has been improved, but it is still in such a foul condition as to be a nuisance to those who reside in its vicinity, and perhaps it might have a good effect if some representation was made to those who have for so long caused some of the inhabitants of this Borough to suffer this abominable nuisance.

The offensive condition of this river is very bad from Saturday noon, when the clows are raised, until well on towards evening, and all the filth which has accumulated is allowed to flow down the stream.

If some action could be taken whereby these clows could be done away with, or the water be allowed a free passage each night in the summer time, it would reduce the nuisance on Saturdays, and make matters much more pleasant for those who reside on the banks of the stream.

SEATS FOR SHOP ASSISTANTS ACT.

Shops have been visited and inspected under the above Act, and where requisite the necessary seats for females have been provided.

SHOP HOURS ACT.

The above act has now been in operation since the 1st of May, 1913, and under its provisions several trades made application for Orders as to hours, etc. or exemptions from its operations.

Six infringements of the Act have been detected during the year : two keeping open after time for closing, two assistants working on what should have been their half-holiday, and the remaining two cases were where two assistants were found to be having their tea and attending to customers at the same time .

All the cases were considered by your Committee, and the shopkeepers were cautioned against a repetition of the offences.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.**To the Chairman and Members of the Housing and Town
Planning Committee.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have continued the work of house to house inspection, and have inspected five hundred and seventy-eight houses, and of this number only two could be said to be really unfit for human habitation ; but your committee decided that where houses required a lot of repairs you would make a Closing Order instead of an Order under Section 15 and state the works required, hence the number of Closing Orders made and the number stated to be unfit for human habitation.

From experience in making the house to house inspection, and from my knowledge of the housing of the inhabitants of the Borough, I think that, although there still remains a few houses which in their present condition may be unfit for habitation and others that require repairs, the condition of the houses generally are of a good type.

But there is another phase of this question which requires, and is, I believe, receiving your attention, and that is the shortage of houses, especially houses with three bedrooms. With the provision of houses of this class we shall be in a position to deal with those persons with large families who will persist in living in houses with only two bedrooms.

It is not from want of means that many of these people remain in small houses, for in several cases there is a fair amount of money going in, and they could well afford to live in a house with more bedrooms.

When spoken to or served with notices to remove into larger houses they always make the excuse that they cannot get a larger house, and in some cases I can believe them, whilst in the majority it is very doubtful if they ever try.

Should there be a number of houses erected with three bedrooms, then we shall be able to deal with this class of tenant and reduce if not altogether stop this overcrowding.

Sanitary Department,
Corporation Street,
Middleton.

Market Inspector's Annual Report.

To the Chairman and Members of the Watch Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present the following Report on the amount of money received from, and the number of stalls which have occupied the Market Ground during the year 1913.

MARKET RECEIPTS.

1913.

1913.												
	£ s. d.			Number of stalls.	Corporation Stalls.			Cost of Sweeping.				
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	Numbers	£	s.	d.	
January	10	5	4	.....	.....	4	19	8	.....	1	6	8
February	9	0	3	.....	.....	5	6	4	.....	1	2	1
March	10	16	7	.....	.....	6	3	7	.....	1	6	1
April	7	15	11	.....	.....	4	9	1	.....	1	7	1
May	7	14	6	.....	.....	4	8	6	.....	1	1	4
June	11	8	5	.....	.....	5	7	1	.....	1	1	4
July	6	17	9	.....	.....	3	8	4	.....	1	10	8
August	44	0	9	.....	.....	4	6	8	.....	1	2	6
September	10	9	2	.....	.....	5	3	4	.....	1	2	5
October	9	10	1	.....	.....	3	13	4	.....	1	7	6
November	9	10	4	.....	.....	6	3	4	.....	1	2	0
December	11	16	0	6	13	4	1	8	1
Total	149	5	1	60	2	7	14	17	9

	£	s.	d.
Receipts, 1913.....	149	5	1
„ 1912.....	172	9	9

Decrease	23	4	8
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Number of Stalls, 1913.....	2309
„ „ 1912.....	2815

Decrease	506
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	£	s.	d.
Cost of Sweeping 1913.....	14	7	9
„ „ 1912.....	15	5	6

Decrease	0	17	9
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During the year the Corporation Stalls have been in use on seven hundred and eighteen occasions, and the amount of money received for their hire is £60 2s. 7d., against six hundred and forty-nine and £53 12s. 5d. for the year 1912. This shows an increase of £6 10s. 2d. for the year 1913.

There is a decrease of £23 4s. 8d. in the amount of money received during the year 1913, as compared with the previous year. This is accounted for by the reduction in the number of stalls which have occupied the Market Ground during the year.

There is also a satisfactory decrease of seventeen shillings and ninepence in the cost of cleansing the Market Ground.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HY. NORTON,

Market Inspector.

